

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1, 3-17, 19-31 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1, 3-17, 19-31 are allowable because the prior art of record neither anticipated nor rendered obvious that an optical film and a method for producing an optical film comprise various elements and steps as claimed with specific features recited in the claims 1, 3, 17 and 19 as follows:

In claims 1 and 17, an optical film comprising a transparent polymer film layer and a birefringent layer formed of a non-liquid crystalline polymer laminated together, wherein a birefringence $\Delta n(a)$ of the birefringence of the birefringent layer and a birefringence $\Delta n(b)$ of the transparent polymer film layer satisfies $\Delta n(a) > \Delta n(b) \times 10$.

In claims 3 and 19, an optical film comprising a transparent polymer film layer and a birefringent layer formed of a non-liquid crystalline polymer laminated together, wherein a birefringence (Δn) of the entire optical film is in a range of 0.005 to 0.5.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mike Qi whose telephone number is (571) 272-2299. The examiner can normally be reached on M-T 7:30 am-6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms can be reached on (571) 272-1787. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Mike Qi/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2871